

## 1995 TITLE 40 - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CFR PILOT

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed the 1995 Title 40 - Environmental Protection CFR Pilot in an effort to expand access to environmental regulations prior to the release of an official electronic version of the entire Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) by the Government Printing Office (GPO).

The files that have been used to create the information released under this pilot were provided by the Office of the Federal Register (OFR), and represent the data used by GPO to print the July 1, 1995 edition of 40 CFR.

The technical issues related to development of a complete "official" version of the entire 50 titles of the CFR, including development of quality graphic files for the historical images for which no original artwork exists, have prevented GPO from creating an electronic CFR accessible as a parallel product to the "official" electronic version of the daily issue of the FEDERAL REGISTER.

As in the case of the electronic Environmental Sub-Set of the daily issue of the FEDERAL REGISTER, provided elsewhere under this section of the EPA public access gopher, an effort has been made to provide public access to the best information available. The Environmental Sub-Set documents are downloaded from the GPO WAIS server, which maintains the official electronic version of the FEDERAL REGISTER. The CFR files are taken from the OFR electronic version of the GPO files used to print the paper volumes. The difference in these files being that these electronic CFR files should not be cited as "official" or authoritative because they do not represent a redistribution of a complete joint OFR/GPO publication.

Several features have been built into the "Pilot" project that will provide for the growth and testing of additional options in releasing CFR material. They include:

- 1) Structuring of the files by Part, or in the case of large Parts by Subpart. This will permit future updating of the electronic files as individual Parts without replacing the entire database. An analysis area has been created to identify how much of 40 CFR actually changes between CFR editions starting with 1995 data as a baseline. This feature is also something that could be used to track quarterly electronic updates while maintaining the once a year paper printing in the future.

- 2) The complete list of sections affected, arranged by Subchapter, has been provided from the back of the appropriate volumes. This "restructuring" of the finding aids was necessary to parallel the electronic display of the regulations. Providing this listing has the potential to build hyperlinks between the CFR and the electronic daily issue in the future.

3) Portable Document Format (PDF) files are the only files being provided at this time in an effort to preserve the integrity of the GPO "microcomp" coded files. No intervention was required other than extracting and processing the specific blocks of data. No value added conversions have been applied to the files in an effort to maintain the integrity of the source material. Added features in PDF technology will also provide enhancements to these files as part of the overall development of the technology. GPO developed PDF files for the daily issue of the FEDERAL REGISTER and it is reasonable to assume that this technology will also be an option for the future "official" CFR.

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